

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub B17
1. A process for making polymeric particles comprising:

5 polymerizing an ethylenically unsaturated monomer as a dispersed phase suspended in an aqueous phase, said aqueous phase containing a water-insoluble particulate stabilizer having a size of less than 100 nm and an effective amount of water-soluble inorganic
10 salt to allow formation of stable monomer droplets in the aqueous phase, said monomer droplets comprising at least 20% of a carboxylic acid containing monomer.

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15 2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the carboxylic acid containing monomer is selected from the group consisting of acrylic monomers, monoalkyl itaconates, monoalkyl maleates, citraconic acid and styrenecarboxylic acid.

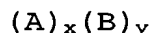
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SUB D2
20 3. The process according to claim 1, wherein the carboxylic acid containing monomer is selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid and methacrylic acid.

25 4. The process according to claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble particulate stabilizer comprises colloidal silica.

30 5. The process according to claim 1, wherein the water-soluble inorganic salts present in the aqueous phase is in a concentration of from 10% to 50%.

6. An imaging element comprising:
a support, and

at least one layer containing polymer particles of the formula:



where A is an ethylenically unsaturated monomer containing carboxylic acid groups, B is a water-insoluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer, x is greater than 20%, y is equal to (100% -x), said particles covered with a layer of a water-insoluble particulate stabilizer having a size less than 100 nm.

7. The imaging element according to claim 6, wherein monomer A is selected from the group consisting of acrylic monomers, monoalkyl itaconates, monoalkyl maleates, citraconic acid and styrenecarboxylic acid.

8. The imaging element according to claim 6, wherein the carboxylic acid containing monomer is selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid and methacrylic acid.

9. The imaging element according to claim 6, wherein monomer B is selected from the group consisting of alkyl esters of acrylic acid, alkyl esters of methacrylic acid, hydroxyalkyl esters of acrylic acid, hydroxyalkyl esters of methacrylic acid, nitriles of acrylic acid, nitriles of methacrylic acid, amides of acrylic acid, amides of methacrylic acid, vinyl esters, and vinyl aromatic compounds, dialkyl maleates; dialkyl itaconates; dialkyl methylene-malonates, esters of unsaturated monohydric alcohols with unsaturated monocarboxylic acids, dienes, esters of saturated glycols, esters of diols with unsaturated monocarboxylic acids, polyfunctional aromatic compounds, trimethylol propane trimethacrylate and

pentaerythritol tetramethacrylate.

10. The imaging element according to claim 6, wherein the water-insoluble particulate stabilizer
5 comprises colloidal silica.

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